

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A robotic surgical system including
2 a surgical manipulator system having a manipulator movably supporting at
3 least one surgical instrument with a plurality of degrees of freedom of movement;
4 a master controller workstation operatively associated with the
5 manipulator to cause selective movement of the instrument in response to inputs from a
6 system operator at the workstation; and
7 a selectively activatable repositioning system configured to interrupt the
8 operative association between the workstation and the manipulator so that the surgical
9 instrument can be moved from one position to another, and to reestablish the operative
10 association after the surgical instrument has been repositioned.

1 2. The robotic surgical system of claim 1, wherein the input device is
2 mounted to the manipulator and is configured so that the surgical instrument is movable
3 while the input device is held, and wherein the repositioning system reestablishes the
4 operative association when the input device is released.

1 3. The robotic surgical system of claim 1, wherein the surgical
2 instrument comprises an image capture device.

1 4. The robotic surgical system of claim 1, wherein the surgical
2 instrument comprises a surgical tool having an end effector configured to treat tissue.

1 5. A robotic surgical system comprising:
2 a surgical manipulator system having a moveable image capture device for
3 capturing an image of a surgical site and at least one medical instrument having a
4 plurality of degrees of freedom of movement;
5 a workstation having a display operatively connected to the image capture
6 device to display the surgical site, at least one master control device operatively
7 associated with the medical instrument to cause selective movement of the instrument in
8 response to inputs to the master control device, and an image capture device control
9 system operatively associated with the image capture device to cause selective movement
10 of the image capture device; and
11 a selectively activatable repositioning system configured to interrupt the
12 operative association between the image capture device control and the image capture

- 13 device so that the image capture device can be moved from one position to another and to
- 14 reestablish the operative association after the image capture device has been repositioned.